

NEW YORK HERALD

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JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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Volume XXXIX. No. 50

MUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

BOOTH'S THEATRE, Sixth avenue and Twenty-third street.—FEMME DE PEU, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:15 P. M. Mrs. J. B. Booth.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirtieth street.—MONEY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mr. Lester Wallack, Miss Jeffrey Lewis.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway between Houston and Eleventh streets.—LAURELLE AND NOVELTY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

GERMANIA THEATRE, Fourteenth street and EINE VORNEHME DAME, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn City Hall, Brooklyn.—WHITE SWAN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE, Washington street and Broadway.—BOBBAIT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mrs. Conway.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—MARKED FOR LIFE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE, No. 555 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway between Prince and Houston streets.—LEATH'N STOCKING, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Third street.—A QUIET FAMILY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. DANIEL BOONE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-third street and Broadway.—POLLIE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Harkins, Miss Ada Dyas.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Eighth avenue and Twenty-third street.—HUMPTY DUMPTY AT SCHOOL, and VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, begins at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. G. L. Fox. GRAND CHARTER MATINEE, at 1:30 P. M.

PASTY TOSTERS' OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third street, corner of Sixth avenue.—CINDERELLA IN ELK, and NOVELTY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

COLOSSEUM, Broadway, corner of Third street.—PARIS BY NIGHT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.; same at 7 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN, Fourth avenue and Twenty-third street.—EXHIBITION OF WATER COLOR PAINTINGS.

RAIN HALL, Great Jones street and Lafayette place.—THE PILGRIM, at 12:30 P. M.; same at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street and Broadway.—Caroline Richings Bernard's Musical Union, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, West Fourteenth street and the Di Cenzo Collection of Antiquities from Cyprus, &c.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, Feb. 19, 1874.

THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

To-Day's Contents of the Herald.

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FUNDING THE CANAL DEBT.—In the report of the meeting of the Produce Exchange there seems to be a hint that the canal amendment is made in the interest of the great through railway lines, who would like to kill the canal traffic.

The Heavy City Taxation—How Can the Burden Be Lightened?

The rate of taxation in the city of New York for 1874 reaches the unusual amount of \$3.40 on every \$100 valuation of taxable property. A person who owns a small home-stand worth \$10,000 will be called upon to pay \$340 for taxes alone this year, and the owner of a house worth \$25,000 will be taxed \$850. Out of the large total required to be raised, the sum of \$26,000,000, in round numbers, is for the expense of carrying on the "reformed" city government. The exact final estimate is \$25,740,746, from which is deducted \$2,000,000 of estimated revenues. It would seem that there should be some room for reduction in these figures, especially as the expenses of conducting the public business are higher now than under the worst year of Tammany rule, and it certainly is the duty of the Legislature and of the city authorities to lighten the burden of taxation if it be possible to do so. The only question is, How can this desirable result be accomplished without interfering with necessary works of public improvement and without injuring the taxpayers more by false economy than they will be injured by submitting to the present exorbitant rate of taxation?

Mayor Havemeyer has sent up two bills to the Legislature which he tells us will enable the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to cut down the expenses. They authorize the Board for that purpose to reopen and rearrange the estimates for the year. This appears plausible enough upon its face, but there is something suspicious in the fact that there should be any necessity to ask for a law to reopen and rearrange estimates a few weeks ago, after they had been acted upon twice by the Board of Estimate and once by the Board of Aldermen. It would be natural enough for the Legislature to require information as to what new light has suddenly shone in upon the Commissioners of Estimate and Apportionment to convince them that they ignorantly or carelessly threw away the people's money on extravagant appropriations less than two months ago, even if the city government was running smoothly and harmoniously. But when it is notorious that scandalous jealousies exist between the different municipal departments it is well to provide against the danger of too liberal appropriations to friends and too great parsimony with enemies without regard to the interests of the city. With the object of insuring that reductions may be made where they can and ought to be made we advised the Legislature to call for information as to what appropriations are too high, and then to so frame the bill as to authorize the reopening of the estimate, for the purpose of making those special reductions, and for that purpose alone. Acting upon this suggestion, the Senate Committee on Cities has called for a statement from the Mayor and Comptroller, "showing in detail the particulars wherein the estimate and apportionment can be reduced, with an explanation as to each item of such proposed reduction, of their reasons for the same, and, if such reasons existed when the original estimate and apportionment were made, why effect was not then given to the same, such statement to be transmitted within ten days."

We believe that reductions ought to be made in the estimates for the present year. If the Mayor and Comptroller are honestly in favor of making them, and of making them in the proper places, there can be no good reason why they should object to specify them, and to insert them in the bills authorizing the reopening. The objection to do so would seem to imply a dishonest purpose. We can name several items which are needless or extravagant, and which ought to be stricken out or reduced. The \$1,598,767 appropriated for the "Fourth avenue improvement," under the provisions of chapter 702 of the Laws of 1872, and chapter 95, Laws of 1873, section 4, need not be raised by taxation this year. This amount the Comptroller admits he is anxious to strike out. Half a million dollars appropriated for "special contingencies," which, in fact, is little better than a corruption fund to be squandered on lobbying lawyers at Albany and similar expenditures, should never have been admitted into the estimates, and should not be taken out of the pockets of the taxpayers. This outrageous item was rejected by the Board of Aldermen, but reinstated by the Board of Apportionment. The court expenses for clerks, messengers, stenographers, attendants, and so on through the whole army of legal subordinates, are a shameful fraud upon the citizens, and should be reduced at least \$100,000. The Fire Department has over \$500,000 outside its regular expenses, of which \$162,860 is for "expenses of the department for the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth wards." The new wards would prefer to have this sum appropriated to laying Croton water pipes. Annexation does not give them on the moment any greater number of buildings or any increased danger of fire, and they can do without the Fire Department's expenditure for another year at least. This amount, with a sufficient reduction from the large appropriation for supplies, repairs and new buildings to make the total up to \$250,000, should be taken from the Fire Department. It would not reduce the force by a single man or a salary by a single dollar. The street cleaning should be reduced from \$1,000,000 to \$500,000. The latter sum would be almost thrown away for the wind, the rain and the sun are the only street cleaners on whom we can depend; but half a million would be ample for the removal of garbage. Thirty thousand dollars is provided for "street cleaning" in the new wards, and probably very little of this will be used for the benefit of the citizens. In the Department of Charities and Correction we find \$36,000 for "pavilions on Blackwell's Island"—a barefaced job. The enormous salary list of this institution, reaching a total of \$338,000, is an outrage on the community. It should be reduced \$74,000, making \$100,000 reduction in all. The cost of the maintenance of the parks is this year \$665,500, or \$285,500 more than last year, and \$30,000 higher than in the grand year of Tammany rule, when the Park police was three times as strong as at present, and when the expenditure on the downtown parks was much larger. From this department \$150,000 could be taken without injury to a single necessary work. Although the Department of Public Works shows a reduction of

\$128,000 from the days of Tweed in salaries and contingencies, it can afford to lose \$70,000 in two amounts appropriated to the repair of wooden pavements and markets. The wooden pavements should be suffered to rot out and be replaced with stone, and the disgraceful nests of sheds known as markets should be left to fall to pieces until their rebuilding would be a necessity. In the Finance Department the salaries and contingencies alone show an increase of nearly \$20,000 over the most corrupt "Ring" year, and the employees are four-fifths the old attaches of Connolly. A department which employs detectives and "examiners" at salaries of \$25 a day and \$4.50 an hour will bear cutting down at least \$75,000.

The reductions we have here enumerated could be made without injury to the city or to individuals. Their total would decrease the estimates \$3,343,767—an amount well worth saving at this time. The items are these:—
Fourth avenue improvement tax.....\$1,598,767
Special contingencies.....500,000
Court levies.....100,000
Fire Department jobs.....250,000
Street cleaning.....500,000
Charities and Corrections pickings.....100,000
Park Department extravagance.....150,000
Wooden pavement and rotten market.....150,000
Waste.....70,000
Finance Department squanderings.....75,000
Total saving to taxpayers.....\$3,343,767
Except in the case of the Fourth avenue improvement tax, which must be paid some day, these reductions would not be payments postponed, but money actually saved to the taxpayers. There would be very little chance of securing such an economy from the Board of Apportionment if the question of the estimates should again be thrown open as a bone of contention between the departments. It would, in fact, save the Board much embarrassment and vexation if the reductions to be made should be specified in the law authorizing the reopening. We hope, therefore, that the Legislature will insist on receiving the information it seeks, and will amend the bills now under consideration by providing for what specific purposes the reopening shall take place. Opposition to this reasonable precaution can only come from those who ask legislation for purposes they do not care to reveal.

The Senate Approaching the Main Question—A Sharp Contest and a Close Division.

After a two months' discussion of the financial problem, in which it has been turned and twisted into every possible complication of inflation and contraction, the Senate yesterday, upon an incidental vote or two, approached the main question.

On Monday, with Cameron's sweeping proposition for free banking, the contending leaders began actively to rally their forces; on Tuesday their skirmish lines were deployed, right and left, and cross-firing and bushwhacking were the order of the day; but yesterday there was an approach to a regular engagement. Chandler opened fire against the inflationists in a startling exposition of the disastrous consequences of the historical red-dog and wild-cat banks of Michigan. His fierce assaults upon the inflationists brought Logan and Morton to their rescue, and Buckingham, Schurz and others to the defence of contraction. The feature of the day's debate was the sharp encounter between Logan and Schurz, the one with the trenchant battle axe of the lion-hearted Richard, and the other with the keen Damascus blade of Saladin. The first vote taken was upon Scott's proposition to provide for the recommission of the bill, and the vote, 28 to 30, revealed the closeness of the division of the Senate. Counting the Senators paired off and other absentees, it would appear from this test that upon a full vote the desertion of two men or one man will defeat the inflationists. The proposition for redemption, upon which the vote was next taken, was rejected by more than two to one; and then, after some filibustering, the Senate was brought to the main question—Cameron's proposition for unlimited free banking. At this point, however, an adjournment was carried by the Cameron party, their object being a full Senate before the vote is taken. It appears that they are still confident of carrying their scheme of free banking, not perhaps, in the unqualified form presented by Cameron, but substantially free banking. They say that while they can carry the principle now they will lose nothing by a little delay, that the scheme is strong with the people of all sections, while the existing national banking monopoly is becoming more and more odious to them with every day's agitation of free banking.

The real question now pending is Sherman's bill to transfer to the West from the East twenty-five millions of currency or to recommit the subject to the Finance Committee with instructions. With the adoption of Cameron's amendment the committee will be instructed to prepare and report a bill providing for unlimited free banking, and the sense of the Senate upon this question will, doubtless, be expressed to-day. The reference may embrace various instructions, and with the general subject once again in the hands of the committee several weeks may pass before it is reported back for another general debate.

REVERIES OF A PRESIDENT.—General Grant is of opinion that the carpet-bag element has not contributed much to the good of the republican party in the South. An excellent place to stick a pin or turn down the leaf.

RETRENCHMENT IN CINCINNATI.—The worthy citizens of Cincinnati are very patriotic—after the manner of Artemus Ward. They favor reform and retrenchment in all parts of the Union, save in Porkopolis. They protest vigorously against the withdrawal or lessening of the Congressional appropriations for public buildings, as they have a little job in that line on hand. Unfortunately, Cincinnati is just in a similar position to many other cities, which have prospered in public buildings, and whose representatives clamor for retrenchment everywhere, except in one favored spot. We should like very much to have a new Custom House erected, but are content to wait; and Cincinnati will have to imitate the self-sacrifice of New York. The nation demands retrenchment, and local interests must be sacrificed to the universal demand.

GOOD FOR THE PILOTS.—We have received a check for two hundred dollars from the New York and Sandy Hook pilots. They wish this money given to some worthy charity, and we will try and find the proper channel for it.

Redistribution.

The Senate of the United States is now engaged in the folly of attempting to make water run up hill. In other words, an effort is being made to redistribute to the South and West a large amount of money, which, obeying the natural laws of trade, has concentrated in the commercial centres of the North and East. Money flows where its use is most profitable. This is one reason why the banks of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Cincinnati and other cities are at the present moment pléthoric with currency. Another reason is that the absence of trade has created that redundancy of idle capital which is now seeking employment in loans or speculation. It is not, therefore, a fault of the banking system that there is a financial vacuum in the sections that are championed by Senators Morton, Logan and Merriam. It is rather an evil—if it be such—that no legislation can prevent, nor no good offices in behalf of a constituency can control, because it results from an immutable law of commerce. Take from the North and give to the South and West even a hundred millions of dollars, and what then? The sum will gravitate immediately to the financial centres. Send it yonder at this particular moment and we venture the assertion that it will find its way back in sixty days. Why? Because there is no use for it. Because, if you apply to-day at almost any bank in New York for national bank currency the larger proportion of the amount passed over the counter will represent banks south of the Potomac and west of the Ohio. It has come here, where securities are gathered and speculation abounds, seeking the investment that is denied to it at home. If a stock board existed at Omaha or at Montgomery, Ala., such as exists in New York, who doubts that money would flow from the East to the West and South? It would follow a speculative channel. This rule will hold good as long as the amount of money is subject to the will of a Secretary of the Treasury or a national legislature. It is not, therefore, a redistribution of the currency that is required, but more business to give employment to idle capital. All the efforts of financial doctors in or out of Congress cannot affect one iota the purpose which they have in view. Their predecessors made the bed, and the country must sleep in it until, rising up in their might, the people shall demand a return to first principles—those which are laid down in the constitution—to wit, that there is no legal tender in this country but gold and silver. If the South and West want more monetary privileges let their citizens instruct the representatives from those sections to pass a free banking law, with such provisions as shall steadily appreciate the paper circulation of the country to a specie standard. Let them compel the government gradually to pay its forced loan of \$400,000,000 of legal tenders and fractional currency, made as one of the necessities of war. When this is done gold will take the place of greenbacks, the national banks can redeem in coin, instead of an irredeemable paper, as now provided; the credit of the government will be augmented at home and abroad, business will be again established on a durable basis and a national disgrace be wiped out.

Will Mr. Brace Explain?
The patrons of the Children's Aid Society would do well to examine the last annual report issued by Mr. Brace. They will there find how the funds of the society are invested in, to say the least, doubtful securities, that are quite unknown in the stock market. Among the assets are 133 bonds of \$1,000 each of the Evansville and Crawfordsville Railroad, a line that scarcely any one ever heard of, and the securities of which are not quoted at the Stock Exchange. Mr. Brace does not tell his patrons how much he gave for these bonds or through whose influence they were purchased. Most people in Wall street know nothing about them, and the few that have heard of their existence say the bonds are not worth more than seventy to seventy-five cents on the dollar, and that it is very difficult to sell them at all. A highly respectable gentleman in Wall street, who has been a constant subscriber to the funds of the Children's Aid Society, has drawn our attention to the manner in which the funds of the society are invested. He himself was utterly astonished on perusing the printed report of the society, as, although being an extensive broker, he had no knowledge of some of the securities in which the money had been invested. He believed that the transaction looked as if there was "a nigger in the fence somewhere," and he declined to renew his subscription to the society for the current year. The society has also invested in five bonds of the Evansville and Terre Haute and Chicago Railroad, which at this moment could not be sold in the street at any price. It would be interesting to know what these securities cost, as well as the reason which induced the officers of the society to place so large a portion of the funds donated by a charitable public in securities which are not known in the street.

A DANGEROUS OBSERVATION.—William Roberts, of Water street, went to Brooklyn and stole the chickens of the public quietly at roost. He met a private watchman, to whom he said, "If you don't leave me alone I'll put a hole through you." As the watchman thought this might be reliable information he fired, and the Coroner is the only public functionary likely to take an interest in the deluded Roberts.

BEARDING THE LION.—M. Teutsch is a Delegate from Alsace to the North German Reichstag, and, though he has a queer name for a Frenchman, he is evidently full of the sentiment of Alsatian indignation, and has taken the first opportunity to express it boldly at Berlin, which is much more manly than doing it on the Boulevard in Paris.

WHAT WILL HE DO WITH IT?—Disraeli has accepted the Premiership.

FIGHT IT OUT.—Reform has been beaten at the polls in Philadelphia, but its supporters say only by fraudulent voting, wherefore they will probably carry the case to the courts. They know in Philadelphia that "He is but naked, though locked up in steel, whose conscience by injustice is corrupted;" but we hope they will not depend upon this for getting justice for their candidate. Shakespeare never meant this for Philadelphia rogues.

Charity and the Theatre.

The approaching celebration of Washington's Birthday furnishes both theatrical managers and the public with an unwonted opportunity of proving what and how much they are willing to do in the cause of charity. Mr. Daly, who has already organized for this purpose a matinee of more than usual attractiveness, deserves all the credit due to an initiative step in so excellent a cause. But there are other managers, whose resources are just as great, if not greater, and who would be almost unpardonable should they allow the winter to pass without a move in this direction. Were a manager like Mr. Lester Wallack, for instance, whose genius has been perfected by so large and valuable an experience, to provide an entertainment of the kind to which we allude, an overflowing house would unquestionably result, and that rare spectacle would be presented of a strictly first class entertainment, with one of the most perfect actors of the day as a central attraction, provided for the purpose of charity. It rests with Mr. Wallack to take the lead. And, though any time and every time seems to have a propriety of its own where charity is concerned, still a holiday, the spirit of which is so gladsome and beneficent, seems to present an opportunity peculiarly felicitous. Let each manager in the city provide next Monday afternoon an entertainment the entire proceeds of which shall be devoted to the benefit of the poor, and if both the afternoon and the evening performance were so applied so much the better. No opportunity could be better than that which Washington's Birthday supplies. Were as attractive a bill as possible presented at each of the theatres on that day, or, rather, on the 23d, when the anniversary will be celebrated, two or three times as much money might be collected as an ordinary occasion would yield. We should be very glad to have some such plan as this adopted. Lord Chesterfield used to say, "Give me virtuous actions and I will not too closely scrutinize the motives." If the motives in attending a charity matinee are those of pleasure, a good deal of beautiful and generous feeling is mingled with them. Few holidays should be more creative of kindly emotion than Washington's Birthday, and we hope to see this suggestion adopted by every manager in the city.

Shoddy Royalty.

There seems to be considerable agitation in the Sandwich Islands on the throne question. King Lunaillo left no legitimate successor, nor did he name one, it appears, and therefore a rivalry has sprung up for the crown, if crown there be. Ex-Queen Emma and a Mrs. Bishop are spoken of as available sovereigns, and a true native Kanaka, David Kalakaua, wants to be King. The islands contain a few thousand inhabitants—about as many as the smallest of the late petty sovereignties of Germany—and nearly half are foreigners, and mostly Americans. What a farce is this aping of European royalty by a few miserable natives and some debased and shoddy citizens of the United States! It is like children playing kings and queens. There are a few Englishmen and Frenchmen at Honolulu, and it is natural enough that they should desire to maintain a Brummagem copy of the royalty and aristocracy under which they were born; but that the American missionaries and traders and whalers, who compose the bulk of the population, should want a royal puppet, is ridiculous. However, if they are to have a monarch we go for Mrs. Bishop, a genuine Yankee and, we believe, a good woman. Then, in case of necessity, should shoddy reign supreme in this country, of which there is a good deal of promise, we might have Queen Bishop transferred to rule over these United States.

SMALL CONTRIBUTIONS THANKFULLY FORGOTTEN.—We give elsewhere the affidavit of John Christ in relation to his failure to obtain certain moneys subscribed for him by the public, and supposed to have been placed in the hands of Mr. Barnard, of the Five Points House of Industry. For Christ's story we cannot vouch, but it is circumstantial, and its publication will afford Mr. Barnard an opportunity to correct unfavorable impressions. It is alleged that \$129 was collected for Christ; that he received but \$93, and that Mr. Barnard could not remember about the remainder. There is no evidence that he ever received the entire sum; but Christ ought to reflect that even if Barnard got the money the charge of \$36 for "administration" on \$129 is brilliantly moderate.

ANOTHER WAR IN AFRICA.—A cable despatch special to the Herald gives us to understand that the Egyptian Khedive is finding some opposition to his government in what is commonly called the Upper Country. The Sultan of Darfour recently invaded the territory of the Khedive near the Bah-el-Ghazal, his object being to capture slaves. The Egyptian Governor, Zebia Bey, gave battle. The army of the Sultan of Darfour was ten thousand strong. The battle was keen and lasted six hours. The Egyptian army was completely successful. The Darfour army was routed, four guns were captured and the Vizier and many chiefs were among the slain. It is gratifying to find that the Khedive is earnestly bent upon putting down the slave trade. Egypt begins to give promise of becoming a great Power in Central Africa. A succession of rulers like Ismail Pasha will restore empire to the banks of the Nile.

MISUSING THE FIGURES.—Mr. Barnard, of the Five Points House of Industry, sends us a letter, which we print, the purpose of which is to show that another establishment—the Roman Catholic Protectory—is, perhaps, worse managed than his own society. It does not appear to us that this makes Mr. Barnard's case any better, though we certainly are sorry to hear that any one has done worse than he has with money given for charity. By our summary it will be seen that the Roman Catholic Protectory disbursed for the benefit of the poor, in the last year, \$365,000, and that its expenses were only \$10,000; while it strikes us the same figures in the House of Industry would have stood just the other way—that is, \$10,000 for the poor and \$365,000 for salaries, &c.

IN SPIRIT OF AN ALIBI.—Conway, called Patsy, was a melodramatic scoundrel, and a jury at White Plains believes him to have been one of the masked burglars of New Rochelle. So they informed the Clerk of the Court when he asked them whether the prisoner was guilty. They said he was. There was a beautiful

alibi, too. Plenty of Conway's friends swore he was with them somewhere else all the time. But then these jurymen were rural, and did not comprehend all the force of an alibi—well sworn to. Conway and those fellows, when they turned their backs on the city that cares tenderly for them and went to burglarize the suburbs, forgot that they would fall into the hands of country justice, which don't know how to acquit a man.

MAULING MULLETT.—Mr. Mullett met Mr. Kessler in Cincinnati and assured him that he (Mullett) had never "stood in his sunshine." This seemed necessary because Kessler had been disappointed in some expectations he had formed with regard to being made Postmaster of Cincinnati. He was, apparently, not bad enough for the place and did not get it. He thought Mullett was the cause, for it seemed natural to him that a government which employs Mullett to build its post offices should consult him as to the size and shape of the postmasters to be put in them. As Mullett insisted he had nothing to do with it Kessler called him a liar, and they mutually proceeded to put architectural decorations each on the other's human face divine.

Moral—Never try to correct the erroneous impressions of foolish people.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

General W. H. Averil is staying at the New York Hotel.
Ex-Speaker D. C. Littlejohn, of Oswego, is at the Metropolitan Hotel.
Judge R. D. Rice, of Maine, is registered at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.
William H. Seward, of Auburn, N. Y., is at the St. Nicholas Hotel.
Judge Harry Bingham, of New Hampshire, is residing at the New York Hotel.
Ex-Congressman O. B. Matteson, of Utica, is staying at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.
Ex-Governor J. B. Page, of Vermont, has returned to the St. Nicholas Hotel.
Professor Charles F. Hartt, of Cornell University, is stopping at the Hoffman House.
Horace Fairbanks, of Vermont, is among the recent arrivals at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.
Congressman Stephen W. Kellogg, of Connecticut, yesterday arrived at the Windsor Hotel.
Ex-Governor Gregory Smith, of Vermont, is among the New Englanders at the Windsor Hotel.
Judge Amasa J. Parker and General S. E. Marvin, of Albany, have apartments at the Windsor Hotel.
Major General McDowell and staff arrived at the Grand National Hotel in Jacksonville, Fla., on the 14th inst.
The Prince Imperial will attain his majority on the 18th of March. There is to be a great gathering at Chislehurst on the occasion.
Commodore W. F. Davidson has retired from the Upper Mississippi steamboat service and has purchased a 17,000 acre farm in Minnesota, upon which he proposes to raise more wheat than any other man in the country.
The Los Animas Colorado Leader says the Duke of Somerset, from England, has been sojourning and hunting in Bent county, in that territory, for some weeks past, and that he gets \$250,000 a year for being his father's son.
Almer Huntley, of Cuba, N. Y., aged 107 years recently sat on a horse to get photographed. Poets sometimes personify Death as "a palid horseman," and Almer must have looked something like that. The omen cannot harm the old man's health very much, however.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Charity Benefit To-Day at the Grand Opera House.

A very grand entertainment will take place at the Grand Opera House this afternoon. For the sake of convenience we may divide it into two great parts, the first of which occurs before the rising of the curtain and the second after. Certainly the first is the more extraordinary of the two, since all the performers make their appearance in parts which they have never previously attempted, and some of them in parts for which they have not the slightest qualification. Mr. Fox, for instance, will officiate at the ticket window, and our only hope is that Mr. Tooker will be present to correct any pantomimic tendencies which might ultimately lead to the confusion of the ticket buyers. Miss Jessie Vokes will exercise jurisdiction over the ticket gates; Miss Victoria will dispose of bouquets, and Miss Rosina will distribute programmes; Mr. Frederick and Mr. Fawdon Vokes will act as ushers. The performance will begin at half-past one o'clock. A long and attractive programme has been arranged. First, come the second and third acts of "L'opéra d'Assurance," in which the Fifth Avenue company will take part. The Martens will then sing their Tyrolean songs, and the first act of Shakespeare's "Richard III." with Mr. G. L. Fox as Richard, and Mr. Frederick Vokes as Richmond. We might, indeed, have desired the rôle of Hamlet to Mr. Fox's genius, such as Hamlet or Othello, or even Shylock or Macbeth. It is safe to say that the interpretation will be strong and novel. Presumably apart, however, all the performers who share in the entertainment to-day deserve public appreciation. Their motives have the beauty of generosity, and the attitude for which members of the theatrical profession are celebrated. The proceeds, as is well known, are for the benefit of the poor of this city. With a beautiful and a very excellent performance, a varied and fascinating programme, the best of motives and the several novel accessories we have already mentioned, there is every reason to anticipate a crowded house and a very significant pecuniary result.

Musical and Dramatic Notes.

Mme. Florence Lancia, the English prima donna, announces her approaching retirement from the stage.
A new and beautiful illusion, called "The Angel of the Madeleine," has been introduced at the Colosseum.
Boston paid Impresario Strakosken for less than two weeks of opera—eleven performances—\$46,021. Of this sum Mme. Nilsson's share was \$11,800.33.
An entertainment of some magnitude is preparing for the Academy of Music on Saturday evening. The bill will be interpreted by the Murray Hill Amateur Dramatic Association. The proceeds are for the benefit of the poor of the Ninth ward.
Mrs. J. B. Booth's benefit and appearance as Juliet are set down, we observe, for Saturday evening, instead of Friday. Upon Friday evening she enacts Pauline in "The Lady of Lyons." On the evening of the ensuing Monday Mrs. Janauschek acts Lady Dedlock and Hortense in "Chester Wild," a dramatization of Dickens' "Bleak House."
The late Mr. A. H. Davenport, the popular actor, who died at New Orleans a short time since, will be reinterred in Greenwood Cemetery. His remains having arrived in this city on the 15th inst., per steamer Mississippi, the funeral will take place from the Church of the Strangers, Mercer street, near Eighth street, to-morrow, at two o'clock P. M., and the Masonic service will be conducted by New York Lodge No. 330, of which he was an honored member for a great many years.
Eichberg's charming operetta in two acts, the "Doctor of Alcantara," was capably sung a couple of evenings since, on the occasion of a birthday celebration at one of our Murray Hill residences. The performers were of course unknown to the operatic stage, and the "accessories," costumes excepted, of some manufacture; yet the chorus singing was admirable and the affair passed off without a hitch, vocal, instrumental or mechanical.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

Official Orders.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1874.
Surgeon George W. Wood has been ordered to the Tuscarrora; Assistant Surgeon Holmes and Acting Assistant Surgeon J. J. Page to the Naval Hospital at Washington; Assistant Surgeon H. M. Martin detached from the Colorado and ordered to return home and report; and Assistant Surgeon Surgeon Howard Williams from the Boston Navy Yard and ordered to the Colorado at Key West.